

## Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 DOTE-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /179 W

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R 011611Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7349

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 1584

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: ECON, IV

SUBJ: MINISTERIAL MEETING ON PRICES

1. GOIC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MET FEBRUARY 28 TO DISCUSS PRICE RISES IN IVORY COAST. MINISTERS ISSUED AMBIGUOUS DECLARATION REGARDING FOLLOWING THREE PROBLEMS: 1) SPECULATION IN RICE AS RESULT OF THE IVORIAN GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY WHICH ALLOWED THE PRICE OF RICE TO BE LOWER IN IVORY COAST THAN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES; 2) CLANDESTINE TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS WHICH ALLOWED AS MANY AS 500 UNREGISTERE VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE ILLEGALLY THROUGHOUT THE IVORY COAST AND TAKE AWAY CUSTOMERS FROM THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM; AND 3) AS A RESULT OF A DECLINE IN NUMBER OF USERS COMBINED WITH THE PROBLEM OF INCREASED PETROLEUM COSTS, BUS FARES WILL BE RAISED BY SOTRA, THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY.

2. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT NO SPECIFIC ACTIONS WERE ANNOUNCED TO SOLVE PROBLEMS. MINISTERS REQUESTED IVORIANS TO KEEP RICE IN THE COUNTRY AND TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF RICE TO MEET THEIR NEEDS. GOIC INDICATED IT WOULD MAKE NEW EFFORT TO CRACK DOWN ON ILLEGAL TRANSPORTERS, BUT MADE NO MENTION OF SPECIFIC BUS

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FARE INCREASES OR NEW PRICES FOR RICE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RICE, SMUGGLING, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, PRICES, PRICE CONTROLS, URBAN TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ABIDJA01584  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ABIDJAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTERIAL MEETING ON PRICES  
**TAGS:** ECON, IV  
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**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005